# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re the Application of: | ) |
| | ) |
| **Ronald A. KATZ** | ) |
| | ) |
| Serial No.: 09/313,120 | ) |
| | ) |
| Filed: May 17, 1999 | ) |
| | ) |
| **For:**   TELEPHONE INTERFACE CALL | ) |
| PROCESSING SYSTEM WITH | ) |
| CALL SELECTIVITY | ) |

Group Art Unit: 2643

Examiner: S. Woo

Office Action mailed:

January 23, 2001

06/22/2001 ANABI1    00000095 501636    09313120
02 FC:155              110.00 CH

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2001, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

06/22/2001 ANABI1    00000095 501636    09313120
01 FC:102              320.00 CH

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 21 and 22 as follows.

21. (Twice Amended) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by synthesized voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said telephone call processing system comprising:

means for selectively receiving calls from said multitude of terminals to establish telephone communication with a select subset of callers, said means for selectively receiving calls comprising means for receiving calls in a plurality of call modes including a toll free calling mode and a caller charge calling mode <u>or an area code mode</u>;

means for providing identification signals entered by said callers of said select subset;

means for individually cueing said callers of said select subset to prompt digital signals for processing to isolate a sub-subset of said callers; and

means for storing identification signals for said callers of said sub-subset.

22. (Twice Amended) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by synthesized voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said telephone call processing system comprising:

means for receiving calls from said multitude of terminals and establishing telephone communication to select a subset of callers based upon online responses provided by said select subset of callers to questions, said means for receiving calls comprising means for receiving calls in a plurality of call modes including an "800" toll free calling mode and a caller charge calling mode <u>or an area code mode</u>;

means for providing identification signals entered by said callers of said select subset; and

means for processing data relating to said callers of said select subset to isolate a sub-subset of said callers.

Please add the following new claims 23-36.

--23. (New) A process for receiving calls through a telephonic communication facility from a multitude of terminals in different call modes including a toll free call mode and an area code call mode and processing the calls in accordance with respective

interface formats for the different call modes, wherein the process involves digital signals including digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals as for identification or data, comprising the steps of:

receiving calls in the toll free call mode and providing an interface format associated with the toll free call mode;

providing an identification number to facilitate participation via the toll free call mode;

verifying the participation number for approval;

receiving calls in the area code mode and providing another interface format associated with the area code mode;

concurrently processing the verified calls received in the toll free call mode and the calls received in the area code mode in accordance with common operations of the interface formats associated with the toll free and the area code call modes; and

providing preliminary automated greetings specific to respective interface formats associated with the toll free call mode and the area code mode, prior to execution of the common operations of the interface formats.

24. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein a data bank relating to a caller is accessed to reference data on a caller.

25. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein the respective interactive interface formats are associated with an information service.

26. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

prompting callers calling from the multitude of terminals in the different call modes with multiple questions; and

further receiving responses from the callers in the form of digital data developed by the multitude of terminals.

27. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 26, further comprising the step of:

isolating a subset of callers based on the responses received from the callers.

28. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the identification number in the form of a caller pin-number as digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals for identification; and

wherein the verifying step includes testing to determine if the caller pin-number is eligible to participate.

29. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein the caller identification number is tested based on limited use.

30. (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 23, wherein the toll free call mode is an "800" call mode.

31. (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

prompting callers calling from the multitude of terminals in the different call modes with multiple questions; and

further receiving responses from the callers in the form of digital data developed by the multitude of terminals to isolate a subset of callers.

32. (New) A process for receiving calls through a communication facility from a multitude of terminals in at least two different 800 call modes including a first 800 call mode and a second 800 call mode for processing to respective interactive interface formats for the two 800 call modes and involving digital signals including digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals as for identification or data, the process comprising the steps of:

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receiving calls in the first 800 call mode and providing an interface format associated with it;

receiving calls in the second 800 call mode and providing an interface format associated with it;

receiving and verifying either caller provided data or calling number identification signals automatically provided by the communication facility to indicate calling terminals numbers for certain of the multitude of terminals to qualify on-line the calls received in at least one of the two 800 call modes to provide verified calls;

means for concurrently processing calls received in both the first and the second 800 call modes to preliminary operations of the respective interactive interface formats for the call modes;

means for coupling the calls received in the first 800 call mode and verified calls received in the second call mode for concurrent processing in accordance with common operations of the respective interactive interface formats; and

an audio control unit for providing different automated greetings to callers calling either in the caller charge call mode or the area code mode.

33. (New) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls according to claim 32 wherein the first response unit and the second response unit are incorporated within a single composite unit.

34. (New) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephonic communication facility from a multitude of terminals in a toll free call mode for processing data in accordance with distinct operating process formats and involving digital signals including called number identification signals (DNIS) automatically provided by the telephonic communication facility, the system comprising:

first response unit for receiving calls in the toll free call mode wherein the called number identification signals (DNIS) indicative of at least one of a plurality of distinct called numbers identifies one of the operating process formats;

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voice generator means for prompting callers to enter data in response to voice prompts wherein the data entered by the callers is used to update data for the callers in a database relating to the callers;

verification means for verifying at least the calls utilizing the one of the plurality of distinct called numbers in the toll free call mode received by the first response unit to provide verified calls based upon verifying caller entered identification data including caller pin-number data;

second response unit means for receiving calls in the toll free call mode wherein called number identification signals (DNIS) indicative of one other of the plurality of distinct called numbers identifies a different one of the operating process formats;

means for concurrently processing calls received by the first response unit means and the calls received by the second response unit for concurrent processing of data in accordance with common operations of the operating process format; and

audio control unit for providing an automated greeting under the control of the called number identification signals (DNIS) to callers calling at least one of the distinct called numbers whereby the automated greeting is specific to the one of the plurality of distinct numbers.

35. (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 32, wherein the means for processing processes data provided by callers to update a databank relating to the callers.

36. (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 32, wherein the first response unit and the second response unit are incorporated within a single composite unit.--

# REMARKS

In response to the office action dated January 23, 2001, Applicant is submitting this amendment and response. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and arguments that distinguish them.

In paragraph 3 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as anticipated by Entenmann et al. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C Section 102(e) is improper. Claim 19 recites *"means for receiving calls from said multitude of terminals and establishing telephone communication to select a subset of callers based upon online responses provided by said select subset of callers to questions...."* The Examiner points to column 2, lines 51-54, in Entenmann, and states that callers to a specific lottery are determined based on the entering of a lottery code. Applicant respectfully submits that in Entenmann, the lottery code is not entered in response to a question as required by claim 19. Moreover, claim 19 recites receiving on-line responses provided by the select subset of callers to questions. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 19 is distinct from Entenmann, as also is claim 20, which depends from claim 19, for at least the same reason.

With respect to claims 21 and 22, Applicant submits that it recites *"receiving calls...in a plurality of calling modes including a toll free calling mode and a caller charge calling mode."* In addition, Applicant has further amended the claim by introducing *"an area code mode."* Entenmann does not disclose receiving calls in different call modes, it discloses two types of lottery services, one that is customer paid and the other that is sponsor paid. Claim 22 specifically requires one of the calling modes to be an "800" toll free mode. Besides, as urged before, in Entenmann (see figure 2), the customer calls the lottery system (block 50) and the sponsor calls the customer and not the lottery system). The call by the customer (an outbound call from the customer to the lottery system) involves entirely different operations from the call to the customer (an inbound call to the customer).

In paragraph 5 of the office action, claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Entenmann in view of Hester. As urged before, Claim 17 requires 1) a *"means for selectively receiving calls from said multitude of terminals to establish telephone communication with a select subset of callers utilizing calling number identification signals automatically provided by a telephone facility"* and 2) a *"means for providing identification signals for said callers of said select subset."* The Examiner contends that

Entenmann's ANI satisfies these separate requirements recited by claim 17. Indeed, if anything, the disclosure in Entenmann of "ANI signals supplied by the local switching system" could not possibly satisfy the requirement in the claim for a "means for providing identification signals for said select subset" because the local switching system is typically a part of the telephone facility and not a part of the telephone call processing system. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17 and 18 (dependent on claim 17) are distinct at least for the reason urged above.

In addition, Applicant has added claims 23-36 for the Examiner's consideration. These claims are similar to claims allowed previously in Applicant's U.S. Patent No. 5,828,734 with some variations. A clean copy of all of the claims including those that are amended and those that are new are attached. Favorable consideration of the pending claims and the newly introduced claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 23, 2001

By: _____
Reena Kuyper
Registration No. 33,830

9220 Sunset Blvd., Suite 315
Los Angeles, CA 90069
(310) 247-8191

17. A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said system having digital signals indicative of DNIS, said telephone call processing system comprising:

means for selectively receiving calls from said multitude of terminals to establish telephone communication with a select subset of callers utilizing calling number identification signals automatically provided by the telephone communication facility, said interface format selected by said digital signals indicative of DNIS;

means for providing identification signals for said callers of said select subset;

means for individually cuing said callers of said select subset to provide digital signals that are entered by the callers for processing to isolate a sub-subset of said callers; and

means for storing identification signals for said callers of said sub-subset.

18. A telephone call processing system according to claim 17, further comprising:

a random number generator for isolating said sub-subset of said callers.

19. A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said telephone call processing system comprising:

means for receiving calls from said multitude of terminals and

establishing telephone communication to select a subset of callers based upon online responses provided by said select subset of callers to questions, said means for receiving calls utilizing automatic number identification signals associated with a calling terminal automatically provided by the telephone communication facility;

     means for providing identification signals entered by said callers of said select subset; and

     means for processing data relating to said callers of said select subset to isolate a sub-subset of said callers.

20.    A telephone call processing system according to claim 19, further comprising:

     a random number generator for isolating said sub-subset of said callers.

21.    (Twice Amended) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by synthesized voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said telephone call processing system comprising:

     means for selectively receiving calls from said multitude of terminals to establish telephone communication with a select subset of callers, said means for selectively receiving calls comprising means for receiving calls in a plurality of call modes including a toll free calling mode and a caller charge calling mode or an area code mode;

     means for providing identification signals entered by said callers of said select subset;

     means for individually cueing said callers of said select subset to prompt digital signals for processing to isolate a sub-subset of said callers; and

means for storing identification signals for said callers of said sub-subset.

22.	(Twice Amended)  A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephone communication facility from a multitude of terminals for processing in an interface format wherein callers are cued by synthesized voice signals supplied to said multitude of terminals and respond with digital signals, as by actuating push buttons at said multitude of terminals, said telephone call processing system comprising:

means for receiving calls from said multitude of terminals and establishing telephone communication to select a subset of callers based upon online responses provided by said select subset of callers to questions, said means for receiving calls comprising means for receiving calls in a plurality of call modes including an "800" toll free calling mode and a caller charge calling mode or an area code mode;

means for providing identification signals entered by said callers of said select subset; and

means for processing data relating to said callers of said select subset to isolate a sub-subset of said callers.

23.	(New) A process for receiving calls through a telephonic communication facility from a multitude of terminals in different call modes including a toll free call mode and an area code call mode and processing the calls in accordance with respective interface formats for the different call modes, wherein the process involves digital signals including digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals as for identification or data, comprising the steps of:

receiving calls in the toll free call mode and providing an interface format associated with the toll free call mode;

providing an identification number to facilitate participation via the toll free call mode;

verifying the participation number for approval;

receiving calls in the area code mode and providing another interface format associated with the area code mode;

concurrently processing the verified calls received in the toll free call mode and the calls received in the area code mode in accordance with common operations of the interface formats associated with the toll free and the area code call modes; and

providing preliminary automated greetings specific to respective interface formats associated with the toll free call mode and the area code mode, prior to execution of the common operations of the interface formats.

24.     (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein a data bank relating to a caller is accessed to reference data on a caller.

25.     (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein the respective interactive interface formats are associated with an information service.

26.     (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

prompting callers calling from the multitude of terminals in the different call modes with multiple questions; and

further receiving responses from the callers in the form of digital data developed by the multitude of terminals.

27.     (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 26, further comprising the step of:

isolating a subset of callers based on the responses received from the callers.

28.     (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further

comprising the steps of:

      receiving the identification number in the form of a caller pin-number as digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals for identification; and

      wherein the verifying step includes testing to determine if the caller pin-number is eligible to participate.

29.    (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, wherein the caller identification number is tested based on limited use.

30.    (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 23, wherein the toll free call mode is an "800" call mode.

31.    (New) A process for receiving calls according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

      prompting callers calling from the multitude of terminals in the different call modes with multiple questions; and

      further receiving responses from the callers in the form of digital data developed by the multitude of terminals to isolate a subset of callers.

32.    (New) A process for receiving calls through a communication facility from a multitude of terminals in at least two different 800 call modes including a first 800 call mode and a second 800 call mode for processing to respective interactive interface formats for the two 800 call modes and involving digital signals including digital signals provided by the multitude of terminals as for identification or data, the process comprising the steps of:

      receiving calls in the first 800 call mode and providing an interface format associated with it;

      receiving calls in the second 800 call mode and providing an interface format associated with it;

      receiving and verifying either caller provided data or calling

number identification signals automatically provided by the communication facility to indicate calling terminals numbers for certain of the multitude of terminals to qualify on-line the calls received in at least one of the two 800 call modes to provide verified calls;

means for concurrently processing calls received in both the first and the second 800 call modes to preliminary operations of the respective interactive interface formats for the call modes;

means for coupling the calls received in the first 800 call mode and verified calls received in the second call mode for concurrent processing in accordance with common operations of the respective interactive interface formats; and

an audio control unit for providing different automated greetings to callers calling either in the caller charge call mode or the area code mode.

33.    (New) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls according to claim 32 wherein the first response unit and the second response unit are incorporated within a single composite unit.

34.    (New) A telephone call processing system for receiving calls through a telephonic communication facility from a multitude of terminals in a toll free call mode for processing data in accordance with distinct operating process formats and involving digital signals including called number identification signals (DNIS) automatically provided by the telephonic communication facility, the system comprising:

first response unit for receiving calls in the toll free call mode wherein the called number identification signals (DNIS) indicative of at least one of a plurality of distinct called numbers identifies one of the operating process formats;

voice generator means for prompting callers to enter data in response to voice prompts wherein the data entered by the callers is used to update data for the callers in a database relating to the callers;

verification means for verifying at least the calls utilizing the one of the plurality of distinct called numbers in the toll free call mode received by the first response unit to provide verified calls based upon verifying caller entered identification data including caller pin-number data;

second response unit means for receiving calls in the toll free call mode wherein called number identification signals (DNIS) indicative of one other of the plurality of distinct called numbers identifies a different one of the operating process formats;

means for concurrently processing calls received by the first response unit means and the calls received by the second response unit for concurrent processing of data in accordance with common operations of the operating process format; and

audio control unit for providing an automated greeting under the control of the called number identification signals (DNIS) to callers calling at least one of the distinct called numbers whereby the automated greeting is specific to the one of the plurality of distinct numbers.

35.    (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 32, wherein the means for processing processes data provided by callers to update a databank relating to the callers.

36.    (New) A telephone call processing system according to claim 32, wherein the first response unit and the second response unit are incorporated within a single composite unit.

2643

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Patent
241/184 (prev. 6646-114N3)

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:  )

**Ronald A. KATZ**  )   **Group Art Unit:** 2643

)

Serial No.: 09/313,120  )   **Examiner:** Woo, S.

)

Filed: May 17, 1999  )   Office Action Mailed:

)

For:  TELEPHONE-INTERFACE CALL  )   January 23, 2001
PROCESSING SYSTEM WITH  )
CALL SELECTIVITY  )

## AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Box Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment and Response to Office Action for the above-
identified application.

☐ **"Small Entity Status"** of this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27 has been
established by a Verified Statement previously submitted.

☐ A Verified Statement to establish **"Small Entity Status"** under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and
1.27 is enclosed.

☒ Applicant(s) petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 [fees:  37 CFR
§ 1.17(a)(1)-(4)] for the total number of months checked below:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this document (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope
addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.

_May 23, 2001_                          _Reena Kuyper_

Date                          Reena Kuyper, Registration No. 33,830

| EXTENSION (months) | FEE FOR SMALL ENTITY | | FEE FOR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 month | ☐ | $55.00 | ☒ | $110.00 |
| 2 months | ☐ | $195.00 | ☐ | $390.00 |
| 3 months | ☐ | $445.00 | ☐ | $890.00 |
| 4 months | ☐ | $695.00 | ☐ | $1,390.00 |

☐ An extension for _____ months has already been secured and the fee paid therefor of _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

☒ Extension fee due with this Request $110.00.

☐ **NO ADDITIONAL EXTENSION FEE IS REQUIRED.**

**FEES FOR CLAIMS:**

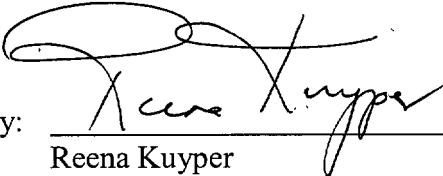The fees for claims (37 CFR § 1.16(b)-(d)) have been calculated as shown below:

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Claims | 6 | 20 | 20 | = | 0 | X | $18.00 | $0.00 |
| Independent Claims | 4 | 7- | 3 | = | 4 | X | $78.00 | $312.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims | $260 | (if applicable) | | | | ☐ | | $0.00 |
| **TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS** | | | | | | | | $312.00 |
| Reduction by ½ for Filing by Small Entity. Note 37 CFR §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28. If applicable, Verified Statement must be attached. ☐ | | | | | | | | $0.00 |
| **TOTAL FEES FOR CLAIMS SUBMITTED HEREWITH** | | | | | | | | $312.00 |

☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed to cover the above fee(s).

☒ Charge Deposit Account No. **50-1636** in the amount of **$422.00**.

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☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge Applicant's Deposit Account No. **50-1636** for any fees required under 37 CFR §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.445 that are not covered, in whole or in part, by a check enclosed herewith and to credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account **50-1636**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _May 23, 2001_

By: _____
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Registration No. 33,830

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